Message Text

SECRET

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R 120309Z JUN 78 FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9426 INFO USLO PEKING AMEMBASSY TAIPEI CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

SECRET JAKARTA 7760

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, PEPR, ID, CH

SUBJECT: CHINESE NATIONALITY PROBLEMS IN INDONESIA

1. DURING JUNE 9 CONVERSATION, LIM BIAN KIE (INDONESIAN NAME NUSUF WANANDI) INFORMED AMBASSADOR AND DCM THAT PRESIDENT SUHARTO HAS AGREED TO A NEW EFFORT TO RESOLVE THE QUESTION OF CHINESE IN INDONESIA. ACCORDING TO BIAN KIE, THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 900,000 CHINESE WHO HAVE EITHER STATELESS OR PRC STATUS, MANY OF THESE ARE PERSONS WHO EITHER DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION WHEN THEY WERE GIVEN THE ORIGINAL CHOICE OF CITIZENSHIP, WERE TOO FAR FROM THE CENTERS OF CIVILIZATION TO HEAR ABOUT THE CHOICE, OR WERE TOO POOR TO MAKE THEIR WAYS TO THE CENTERS OF AUTHORITY. WHILE UN-WILLING TO GO INTO DETAIL SINCE THE METHODS HAVE NOT YET BEEN DECIDED UPON, BIAN KIE STATED THAT THE NEW CAMPAIGN WILL AIM AT A RAPID DECISION BY THE CHINESE WHO, IN TURN, WILL QUICKLY RECEIVE INDONESIAN CITIZEN-SHIP IF DESIRED; INSTEAD OF PAST PRACTICES WHICH RE-QUIRED APPROXIMATELY TWO YEARS AND RPH. 1 MILLION SECRET

SECRET

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IN PAYOFFS TO ACHIEVE INDONESIAN NATIONALITY. HE
ALSO DECLARED THAT THE CHINESE COMMUNITY HAS OFFERED
TO PAY ALL EXPENSES FOR TEAMS TO GO THROUGHOUT INDONESIA
TO MAKE SURE THAT ALL CHINESE HEAR OF OPPORTUNITY IN
TIME, ARE ABLE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT AND RECEIVE
CITIZENSHIPPROMPTLY. THE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE PUTTING
THE NEW PROGRAM INTO EFFECT WILL, HOPEFULLY, BE ISSUED

DURING THE FALL ACCORDING TO BIAN KIE.

2. IN HIS CONVERSATION, BIAN KIE MADE IT CLEAR THAT RENEWED EFFORT TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM HAS BEEN BROUGHT ABOUT BY CHINESE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING HIMSELF, WHICH WISHES TO SEE AN END TO UNFAIR TREATMENT OF THEIR RACE, AS WELL AS BY INDONESIAN DESIRES TO RID THEMSELVES OF PROBLEM AND THE NEED TO PREPARE FOR RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS WITH PRC.

MASTERS

SECRET

NNN

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